Appl. No.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the section entitled "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION" and replace it with the following rewritten section:

RELATED U.S. APPLICATION DATA

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/107,502 filed by me on March 27, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,676,534———, a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/909,347 filed by me on July .18, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,629,901, a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/705,376 filed by me on October 30, 2000, now abandoned, and a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/077,097, filed by me on February 15, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,641,488.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 13, which starts with "Fig. 20 is a" with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 20A and 20B are Fig. 20 is a vertical sectional views of different embodiments view of the wider segment taken in enlarged scale along line 20-20 of Fig. 16;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 16, which starts with "Fig. 21 is a" with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 21A and 21B are Fig. 21 is a vertical sectional views view of the composite strip taken in enlarged scale along line 21-21 of Figs. 22A and 22B, respectivelyFig. 22;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, which starts with "Fig. 22 is a" with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 22A and 22B are Fig. 22 is a broken top views of different embodiments view of the composite strip;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 21, which starts with "Fig. 23 is a" with the following amended paragraph:

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Figs. 23A and 23B are Fig. 23 is a broken bottom views view of the embodiments composite strip of Figs. 22A and 22B, respectively, Fig. 22 showing a peel-off tape being removed from the underside of the composite strip;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 1, which starts with "Referring now to Fig. 21" with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Fig. 21A21, the side edges of the polyurethane layer P2 of segment S2 are formed with sidewardly and outwardly extending reinforcement side edges 70 and 71. The side edges of the felt layer B2 of segment S2 have been skived to form outwardly and upwardly slanted side edges 72 and 73. The underside of segment S2 is covered with an adhesive 74 initially covered by a peel-away tape T2. To combine segments S1 and S2 into composite strip S, the band TB of peel-away tape T is pulled off segment S1 as shown in Fig. 17. A skived side edge 43 of segment S1 is then placed on top of reinforced side edge 70 of segment S2, as shown in Fig. 21A 21- and pressed onto segment S2. The strip S is then cut on both ends to provide the leading edge and trailing edges 77 and 78, as shown in Figs. 22A22- and 23A23. Figs. 20B -23B show alternative embodiments that are similar in many respects to Figs. 20A – 23A. In particular, Fig. 20B shows an embodiment of the wider segment S1 with an EVA backing layer B1 and no pattern F on its polyurethane layer P1. Fig. 21B shows the composite strip S with EVA backing layers B1, B2 of segments S1, S2, respectively, and no pattern F or indicia I on the polyurethane layers P1, P2, respectively. Figs. 22B and 23B depict embodiments with EVA backing layers B1, B2 and outer layers P1, P2 with the pattern F and indicia I, respectively.